

REMARKS**Status of the Claims**

Upon entry of the amendment above, claims 1, 4-6, 8-10, 13, 15-19, 21, 22, 24, 25, 27-31, and 33-36 will be pending, claims 1, 21, 22, 25, 27, 28, 30, 33, and 34 being independent.

Summary of the Office Action

In the Office action, claims 21-23, 26, and 27 are objected to for depending upon a rejected base claim, but are identified as containing allowable subject matter.

Claims 28-31 and 33-36 are allowed.

Response to the Office Action

Consistent with the indication of allowability, the instant application is believed to be placed in condition for allowance. To this end, the following amendments have been made.

Independent claim 1 has been amended to include the subject matter of allowable claim 23, as well as that of intervening claim 2.

Intervening claim 2 has been canceled.

Allowable claim 21 has been rewritten in independent form by incorporating therein the subject matter of parent claims 1, 2, and 20.

Allowable claim 22 has been rewritten in independent form by incorporating therein the subject matter of parent claims 1, 2, and 20.

Intervening claim 20 has been canceled.

Independent claim 25 has been amended to include the subject matter of allowable claim 26, claim 26 being canceled.

Allowable claim 27 has been rewritten in independent form by incorporating therein the subject matter of parent claim 25.

Claim 32 has been canceled.

In addition to the amendments above, amendments of a clarifying nature have been made. For example, several occurrences of "said flange" have been changed to "said lateral flange" (and "said first flange" has been changed to "said first lateral flange"; "said second flange" has been changed to "said second lateral flange").

In addition to the amendment made above, Applicants intend to file a continuation application for the purpose of pursuing certain of the claims which have not been allowed.

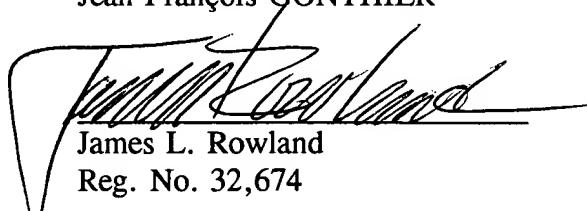
In view of the amendment, allowance of the instant application is requested.

A check is enclosed for payment of a claim fee. No additional fee is believed to be due at this time. However, the Commissioner is authorized to charge any fee required for acceptance of this reply as timely and complete to Deposit Account No. 19-0089.

Further, although an extension of time for a single month is believed to be necessary at this time, if it were to be found that an additional extension of time were necessary to render this reply timely and/or complete, Applicant requests an extension of time under 37 CFR §1.136(a) in the necessary increment(s) of month(s) to render this reply timely and/or complete and the Commissioner is authorized to charge any necessary extension of time fee under 37 CFR §1.17 to Deposit Account No. 19-0089.

Any comments or questions concerning this application can be directed to the undersigned at the telephone or fax number given below.

Respectfully submitted,
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